



## Town of Lincoln Eau Claire County Notice of Ordinance August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Ordinance Number: 2021-22**  
**Town of Lincoln Wind Energy Facility Licensing Ordinance**

**An ordinance for Wind Energy Facility Licensing in the Town of Lincoln, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin was adopted and therefore put into effect on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Summary Of Ordinance:** (to view the full ordinance, see below)

**Findings:** Under state law, electric generating systems of less than 100 megawatts (MIN) are subject to regulations enacted by counties and local units of government. The Town of Lincoln is under the Eau Claire County Code section 18.30.260 containing regulations for wind energy facilities. This code has insufficient standards to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents and property owners of the Town of Lincoln. Therefore, this Town of Lincoln licensing ordinance has been adopted under Wis. Stat. 66.0401. The Town finds that all wind energy facilities (WEFs) which may be constructed and operated in the Town require special licensing by the Town, in addition to any restrictions that may be imposed by Eau Claire County, to protect the public health and safety of Town residents and property owners. In this regard, the Town finds that the report issued by the National Research Council entitled "Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects," May 2007 (2007 NRC Report) addresses several important public health and safety issues relative to wind energy facilities that require regulation by the Town. The Town further finds that the provisions of the "Draft Model Wind Ordinance" for Wisconsin, as promoted by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Administration, are inadequate to reasonably protect public health and safety. The Town also finds the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin's delay of the Wind Siting Council's 2019 report of special concern. The Wind Siting Council is expected to meet every five years. These concerns are regarding the expectations of more recent studies possibly having been done in this five-year period that may bring to light more definitive conclusions regarding the health, safety, and welfare of our community.

**Purposes and Intent:** The purpose and intent of this Ordinance is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents and property owners of the Town of Lincoln who may be affected by the development and operation of WEFs. Such purposes and intent shall be accomplished by regulating noise, protecting emergency communications, regulating shadow flicker, ensuring adequate fire protection, establishing adequate setbacks, protecting water quality, preventing soil erosion, regulating visual obstructions preventing conflicts between incompatible land uses, ensuring proper installation of WEFs, and ensuring safe and complete decommissioning of WEFs.

**Licensing and fees:** The ordinance establishes the Town of Lincoln's licensing process, fees, and other financial requirements to be met by the applicant.

The full ordinance can be viewed on the Town of Lincoln website: <https://lincolntownshipwi.com>

You may also contact the town clerk to view a full copy of the ordinance.

Sherry McCormick, clerk

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